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DEPARTMENT OF APPLIED PHYSICS

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November 3, 1994

Prof. Virulh Sa-yakanit
Director of FTS
President of ASEAN Institute of Physics
Chulalongkorn University
Faculty of Sciences
Bangkok 10330, Thailand

Dear Professor Sa-yakanit:

First I would like to congratulate you on your election for President of the ASEAN Institute of Physics. I am sure this reflects your dedication and engagement to expand research and technology on a broad basis and across international boundaries in Asia.

I am also very glad to hear that your project for a Thai synchrotron light source is gaining momentum with the development of a basic concept and the start of formal meetings to create a consensus among the Thai physics and research community. The significance of such a high tech facility extends way beyond the research opportunities. Planning, design, construction and commissioning of such a facility will be a significant opportunity to demonstrate the quality of the educational system in Thailand. This has been quite obvious in similar projects in Taiwan, Korea and Brazil. Young people from industrially emerging countries often move abroad in search of opportunities to apply their creative ideas at an intellectual loss to their home country. After completion of such a light source this challenge continues while conducting forefront research with synchrotron radiation and constructing new beam lines and optical components. As has become obvious in well established light source laboratories elsewhere, scores of graduate students find their education and degrees in new technologies developed and applied in research with synchrotron radiation. Industry as well as the future educational system in Thailand will depend on such graduates.

I wish you a sustained progress towards your goal and would be happy to assist you in this endeavor. In this respect I consider it an honor to be included in your advisory committee.

With my best wishes,

Sincerely yours,

Helmut Wiedemann
Professor